

Senate Concurrent Resolution

No. 26

Introduced by Senator Beall

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Roger Hernández, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)

March 5, 2015

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26—Relative to Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 26, as amended, Beall. Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would recognize that pancreatic cancer statistics call for aggressive measures now to develop early detection and treatment tools before the incidence dramatically increases, and would proclaim November 2015 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in California.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In 2015, an estimated 48,960 people will be
2 diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and 40,560 people will die from
3 the disease in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers,
5 is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States,
6 and is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate
7 in the single digits at just 7 percent; and

8 WHEREAS, Symptoms of pancreatic cancer usually first present
9 themselves in its late stage, and 72 percent of pancreatic cancer
10 patients die within the first year of their diagnosis, while 93 percent
11 of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

12 WHEREAS, Approximately 4,300 deaths from pancreatic cancer
13 will occur in California in 2015; and

14 WHEREAS, The incidence and death rate for pancreatic cancer
15 are increasing, pancreatic cancer is anticipated to move from the
16 fourth to the second leading cause of cancer death in the United
17 States by 2020, and the number of deaths from the disease will
18 increase 2.4 fold by 2030; and

19 WHEREAS, The federal government invests significantly less
20 money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in research of
21 any other leading deadly cancer, constituting only approximately
22 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's research funding, a
23 figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its mortality
24 rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it; and

25 WHEREAS, The Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act of 2012,
26 formerly the Pancreatic Cancer Research and Education Act,
27 requires that the National Cancer Institute develop a scientific
28 framework for combating pancreatic cancer and other recalcitrant
29 cancers; and

30 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is a national
31 organization serving the pancreatic cancer community in California,
32 where it is headquartered, and nationwide through a comprehensive
33 approach, which includes public policy, research funding, patient
34 services, and public awareness and education related to developing
35 effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

36 WHEREAS, The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its
37 affiliates in California support those patients and families currently
38 battling pancreatic cancer, as well as the friends and families of
39 those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed
40 to nothing less than a cure; and

1 WHEREAS, The good health and well-being of the residents
2 of California are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness
3 about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes,
4 and effective treatments; now, therefore, be it

5 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
6 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby recognizes that
7 pancreatic cancer statistics call for aggressive measures now to
8 develop early detection and treatment tools before the incidence
9 dramatically increases, in light of the fact that National Cancer
10 Institute funding is falling dangerously behind; and be it further

11 *Resolved*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims November
12 2015 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in California and
13 urges all California citizens to wage hope to end pancreatic cancer;
14 and be it further

15 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
16 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.